genbert.

The Dean of St. Paulis s' land of St. Paulis of St. Paulis of Laered. That the Thanks of Laered of Holy be given to the St. Paulis of St. Paul

Paul Jodrell,

Lune 1 me die Februarii, 191.

Ridered, That the Thanks of this House be given to the Dean of St. Pauls, for the Sermon Preached before this House at St. Margaret's Westminster, the 30th day of January last: And than he be desired to Print the same: And that Sir Tho. Darcy, and Mr. Biddolph do acquaint thin therewith.

Paul Jodrell,

A

SERMON

Preach'd before the

HONOURABLE

Houte of Commons,

A T

St. MARGARET'S WESTMINSTER,

January the XXXth, 169!.

By WILLIAM SHERLOCK, D. D. Dean of St. Paul's, Master of the Temple, and Chaplain in Ordinary to Their MAJESTIES.

LON DON:

Printed for William Rogers at the Sun, overagainst St. Dunstan's Church, in Flee street. 1692.

A.

SERMON

Preach'd before the

HONOURABLE

Poule of Commons,

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St. MARGARET'S WESTMINSTER, joiney the XXXth, 469!

By W. 1 Lt. 10x at Sugar ock, D. D. D. Pean of St. 2 and 6 lepton in Ordinary to Their MAJESTIES.

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Sermon Presend before

SERMON

Preach'd before the

House of Commons.

on the XXXth of January, 1601

ENC. PS A L.M. Sor lis med

Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil; ni 1118 he prays for and



bhig.

HIS Pfalm, as the Title tells us, and as Learned Men ge-To nerally agree; is a Prayer of Mofes; penned by hims, as is supposed, after God had prointo many mounced that final Sentence

against the Ifraelites, That none of that great Army, which came out of Egypt, from twen-

canaan, but should all die in the Wilderness, excepting Caleb and Joshua. And therefore he complains, We are consumed in thy anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled; Thou hast set our iniquities before Thee, our fecret sins in the light of thy countenance: For all our days are passed and should which is literally true of no other period of the sewish Church, but this, when God in great anger had condemned them all to die in the Wilderness: They lived then to little other purpose, but to pass away the time, as men tell Stories, till forty years should put an end to them all.

But in my Text, and some Verses before, he prays for, and foretells a more happy state of the Jewish Church; when all the Troubles they had histered for so many years in Egypt, and the Wilderness, should come to an end, and they should be settled in a quiet possession of the promised Land: Return, O Lord, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants. O satisfy us early with thy mercy, that we may rejoice, and be glad all our days. Make us

glad

glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil.

So that in my Text there are three things considerable; 1. The first is implied, That fin for which God thus punished them: For that it was for their fins, not only the Juflice of the Divine Providence Supposes, when the Calamity is National; but the Pfalmift exprelly affirms, D. &. Thou haft fet our miquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance. Which intimates, that there were more finsthan one, and forme of them very fecret onestoo, for which God punished them: For fo commonly it is, that a great many fins, fuch as we have forgot, or took little notice of, are brought to account, when forme one great Provocation tempts God to publick Acts of Vengeance.

If we apply this to the Case I before mentioned, then it is very evident what this provoking Sin was; viz. Their murmuring against that good Land, their rebelling against God and Moses, their attempt to make them a Captain to return into Egypt, and to stone

in Biral to strom il Caleb

Caleb and Joshua, who encouraged them to go up, and take possession of the Land, which God had promised to their Fathers, Num. 14.

2. Their Punishment, The continuance and severity of it; They were to wander in the Wilderness Forty Years, and to die there,

without entring into that good Land.

would return to them in Mercy, and recompence these Sufferings, by giving them a quiet possession of the Land of Promise; Make us glad according to the days wherein thou bast afflicted us, and the years wherein me have seenevil some

Our case, which is the occasion of this present Solemnity, differs somewhat from this in every particular, but yet bears such an Analogy, and proportion to it, that I shall take occasion from hence to discourse to you on these Three Heads:

1. The Sin which we this day Lament.

2. The Evils and Calamities, which we have now for more than Forty Years, in some degrees or other, and sometimes very severely suffered under, as the natural effects, or just Punishments of that Sin.

3. What

3. What a happy Prospect we have of an end of all these Evils, if we can be contented to be Happy.

recommend States

lament; I shall make no scruple to call it what you have this Day in your Publick Prayers to Almighty God confessed it to be; The Barbarous Murder of an Excellent Prince: And those are guilty of base Hypocrisse, and put a great Contempt upon God, who join in the Devotions of this Day, and don't think it so.

Besides our imploring the Divine Mercy and Forgivenes, I have sometimes thought that such an Annual Solemnity as this, is due to the Memory of our murdered Prince; the least Recompence we can make to him, and yet the greatest thing we can now do for him; To celebrate his Funeral with a Religious Pomp, and to shed Penitential Tears upon his Grave; And indeed such an Honourable Presence as this, gives an illustrious Testimony to him, and vindicates his Memory from those sources are she selections which are made on it by envenomed Pens.

Ishall

I shall not dispute the Lawfulness of Refisting the King's Authority; whether it were
Lawful for the Parliament to take Arms
against the King, to Defend the Laws and
Liberties of their Countrey; for whether it
were or were not, all Wise and Good Men
must abominate the Villany of this Day; as
we know many of those did, who began the
War, without being aware what the end of it
would be.

For suppose (which is all that can be asked in this case), That in a Limited Monarchy the Estates of the Realm have Authority to maintain the Laws and Liberties of their Countrey, against the Islegal Encroachments and Usurpations of their King; How does this justifie the Murder of King Charles?

For 1. They could pretend to no farther Right, than to keep the King within the Boundaries of Law; and when they were fecured of this, they had nothing else to do, but to lay down their Arms, and return to their Duty; for he was their King still, and they his Subjects; and if it were no Rebellion

lion to resist his illegal Usurpations, yet it must be Rebellion to oppose him, when he was contented to Govern by the Measures of Law; if there be any such Sin, as what men use to call Rebellion.

Especially when the Subversion of the Laws and Government, and Established Religion of the Nation is made the Condition of Peace: For tho it were Lawful for Subjects to Relift their Prince for Subverting Laws, furely this don't make it Lawful for them to Murder him for observing the Laws which he is fivorn to observe: And therefore whether it were Rebellion or not before, one would think it should commence Rebellion, when the Scotch Covenant, the Abolishing of Episcopacy and Liturgies, that is, of the Workingand Government of the Church Eftablished by Law, were made the necessary Articles of Peace, without which, a Prince who fued for Peace, must be denied it by his own Subjects.

And yet it is much worse still, when a Prince for the sake of Peace shall make such Concessions, (tho it may be to the diminution of

his

his just Authority) as the Estates of the Realm shall Vote Satisfactory, and yet be Persecuted by a Prevailing Faction, who had got the Power in their hands, and did equally oppress both King and Subjects. I need not comment upon these things, you know the Truth, and the Application of them.

adly, And yet it is a monftrous Aggravation of this, when they had a yeilding and complying Prince in their hands, as far as with a fafe Conscience he could comply, to arraign, judge, condemn, and execute him: For what Authority had they to judge and condemn their King? How came they to be his Soveraign, and He their Subject? What Law or Rule made such an Example or President as this? And if they had no Authority for it, it was Murder, and that the most execrable Murder, the Murder of their King. It was a Sarcastical Question of Pilate to the Jews, Will ye crucifie your King ? This they were alhamed of, and therefore Disowned him, We have no King but Cæsar: If the murder of a private man be so great a crime, because in the Image of King, who is the Murder of a King, who is the Murder of a King, who is adubly Sacred doubly the Image rofe God, south as a Man, and as a King hwho is book in the book or as are many found in meaner Perfore; nav. which would

And yet a fecret Stabi or Poylon had been a civil way of Murdering Rainers in 160mg parison with this Mock Stent and Pageantry of Justiced For whatehan Tragical Sight was this! How could Himane Nature bear fuch and Indignity bo To Scho Crown'd Head, which ned long fince received The humblest Submilfinhshof dis Subjects and had Life and Death at his disposal an what was the Fount raid Wf all Aucharity Land Julice, now Are minned declare his own Subjects, streated with Implification of the state of t through his byte Pilece, where he used so Slime with and A wfull Majerty, tand in the field of the Sun linether fight of his own Subjects who friend with bellow An legret Sight and head by seld in short stage Murdering Axe : Talvestate bear selling athe Story, and were it upon any other occasion, I should I should think it very unmannerly to put you to so much pain as to hear it.

And if to this we add the Character of his Person, and those Princely Vertues which a dorn'd his life; fuch Vertues as are rarely found in meaner Persons; nay, which would have adorned even a Hermits Cell; it still aggravates the Iniquity of it . But bikall not infift on this, for the has drawn the Picture of himself in his admirable Book, better than any one elle can draw it. It is an ania zind Providence That God Should expose the greatest Example of Piet yand Ventue, other had fate upon the English Throne, and Tuchina dignities and Sufferings , as in all the Gir cumstances of them had no Example: What Wife Reasons God had foo itd we know not a but I am fere thus shuthoweblears qualification there is a Spirit of Zeal and Faction, the Principles of which, if nor tellmined, will ruin the belt Princestand over-min the bell Governments in the world for they make little difference between Princes, where they can find Pretence and Power: 91A nambrum

Story, and were it upon any other occation,

This was a very great Wickedness, for which it becomes us, as we do this day, to hamble our fetves befort God, and to im plorethis Mercy to Picy and Sparens and Pols not enough to fay, That we had no hand in it what it was done before many of us weller born or before we sould know sand judge any thing about it, or that we did abhor and detest it when it was done: This will excuse of from all Personal Guite , we shall not anfree for hoin another world, burgwei may forter for it in this! Matichal Silisbring down National Judgments Contich att men dwitt Marional Repensanch and Humiliation And therefore the we cannot confes this Shimas our Dwin Perforate Quilegame Oughe covers plefs our Publick Adherience of test to beg God at demoved stude. Judgmentsmuhielt the Site has balle described wand trass brought upoditius ; respecially dafter fed manyl dagly berein westavesteen lafflifted, baften of many kars aberein webare femundt, nwo rients mus need not tell you, That the fundamental 2. Which C 2 Conmy Lexis Those may Evilone have seen and delt as Those Judgments with a which and delt as Those Judgments with which we have reason to believe, when the Funding about it, or that we did abhorately any thing about it, or that we did abhorately detell it when it was done: This will exempted the will e

I shall not give you a History of those late Tragical Times, which most of you know as welliab bense than It doe How much rehis tinhapply Divided Kingdom full fered by a Bloody Mantiural Wash which wined no imany! blable and Blourishing Pamilies in imade of otomany o miletable Wil dosves andu Ouphans liu poder for mucho Chrio hist Blood and Treature stitute the best Reformed Chutch, inghther wish the bell Princes purche Soybed inch thald rachs bands, who known better that stooder; with it when they stad, hit if till meliey abade carved out their own Fortune anth Gieschels, I need not tell you, That the fundamental 2. Which Con-

Constitution of the English Government was overturned, and exchanged for new Models, which did not last long enough to be lick'd into any thape brand an laft dwindled and glimmer'd away in Some about and faint Apparitions of Power. How the Subject Just all this while oppressed by the worst for of Opportions, their Fellow fubjects , and found a vaft deal of difference between the Govern ment of their King with all his Faults, and their new Masters. These things, I say, I finall pals over for thanks be to God, there is an and of them is anth show tremain only in Souly ins Ses marks, the warn us, where the Rickil and Sands libra but fuch violent froms as their (aldomend without leaving a ropuling and offibled School Thele revelble Sonyula hous of State of like it therp he of the Gours when the paintingood, leave a great typak ness spon the Government) and make it wery, unquiet, and liable to frequent Relaples As for Example:

I believe, no confidering man doubts, but converted at considering of an exception of the converted at the confidering of the Jealousies, Distrusts, which make Government uneasie and weak, when a Prince cano not trust his Subjects, hor Subjects their Prince; but they guard and funde against each other, the one to secure his Crown guard which must needs make all Publick Affaits move slowly, and lamely, and create many Inconveniences to a Kingdom, book at home and abroad. It is the guid abroad.

This temps Princes to affect Arbitrary Power, when they feel their Crowns fit total tering upon their Heads, and fee themfoliose check'd at every turn, and it may be shally Rope in the most generous Belighs, in his vance the Glory, Safety, Riches, band Power of their Nation grapy find themselves too weak' to lecute their Government from Foreign Powers or from Home band Paptions without it. I have not a black but, and prince the first prince the first prince band paptions without it.

I believe, no confidering man doubts, but that the late Attempts to introduce Arbitrary Power in form of Law, were principally owing

owing to the Tragedy of this Day: And if it were possible any thing could excuse such were possible any thing could excuse such attempts, this would have done it. However we ought to acknowledge, that those District we suggest to lately stragled under, and from which the good Providence of God has delivered us, were the just punishment, be tausathe just desert, and the unavoidable of the four Sind but, coincided this is the state of things, without setting up the Royal Standardy or levying

Swhile this is the state of things, without setting up the Royal Standard, or levying Forces, Prince and Subjects (however the matter may be dissembled) are at War with each others and how uncasy a state other is, and how much the Publick suffers by it, our late Experience willtell us, not nothing will a said to a read a soil ried a soil

great Bretonces to julify the War against King Chines, han Now whatever appearances there might be of the first through mistake and ilk Gouncell and the necessary of Affairs, which might might be necessary of Affairs, which might might be necessary to the feel as Fanatical imputation of Popery to the Church of

of England; of which that Prince was forces lous a Patron; The Church of England, I fay, the Igreat Bulwark against Popery; whose first Resonners scaled about Testiguons against Popery with their Blood; and whose which Leatned Penschave desended the Provestant Cause, to the great sandation of all the Platestant Churches, and the Consultation of their Popish Adversaries, and the countries against their Popish Adversaries, and the countries against the Quarrela but observe now, as about being characters, but observe now, as about being described countries. But observe now, as about the Quarrela but observe now, as about being described countries.

testants take Arms against their King, barbardusly murder him, and drive their Princes to seek their Bread, and to secure their Lives in Foreign Countries. There one of them dearns the Religion of those Countries, which is a very convenient Religion for a Pfined, who affects to be Absolute and And this broughdour Fears upon us we say and such boild stops made to setup Popery, as made us all cremble. Right tenus and those O Lord, and just we the judgitum.

outOn the other hands this makes Subjects very jealous of the Power of their Prince and ready to take all Advantages to letten it; which in the may prove very dangerous to Government, an least, will insentibly after the Constitution : For too little Rowen is as fatal to Covernment as too much may, in some junctures it is the most dangerous Extream of the Truck for what me call too much lower may be well quich, when in the Hand of a wife and good Prince in And then the more the Power is, the stronger and more flourishing mass the Covernment and Nation be; but too little Power can never Govern well when the Government is fo weak, that it can neither defend it felf non its Subjects; and therefore, the just Rights and Prerogatives of the Crown, and the necessary Powers and Authority for Government, ought to be as dear to Subjects, as their own Rights and Liberties are. It is certain Power wildber formewheren if the Prince loofe it, the People will get it, and when once the People gain such a Power as to top their Princed there is an end of Monarchy. being

narchy. As absolute Power changes the Constitution of a Legal and Limited Monarchy into an Arbitrary Government, so a precarious depending Power, changes the Monarchy it self into a Venetian State. Both which Extreams wise Men, who love the English Government, would by all means avoid; and it is a very great milehies, when Princes or Subjects are violently Tempted to either of the Extreams: and this we owe also to the Sin of this Day.

Another very lasting and fatal Evil of such Examples, as that of this day is, that it infects Mens minds with loose Notions of Government and Obedience, which are at first invented to justific such Actions, and which People are sooner taught then untaught: As, that all Power is radically in the People, and therefore but a trust, which a Prince must give an account of; which he may be deprived of; for the Abuse of which he may be Punished, even with Death, by his own Subjects. Nay there are some among us who charge all Men who deny this, with being

being Enemies to the Constitution, and with reproaching the Wisdom and Justice of the Nation in the late happy Revolution, which they think can be defended upon no other Principles. But as wife Men, and as hearty Friends to the present Government think otherwise; and I am sure it would be no Service to the Government to persuade all, who cannot own these Principles, to disown and renounce all that has been done.

But how does in appearanthat the late Revolution sturned supon a these; Principles and a second supon a these; Principles and a second supon a these; Principles and a second supon a these of the second supon a second

The Undertaking of the Prince of Orange, now our Gracious King, needed, none of these Principles to justify it: He was no Subject of England, but an Independent Prince, and so nearly related to the Crown, that he was concerned to see the Succession secured, and the Government kept upon its ancient Bottom; which was thought so just and bonomable and necessary an United D 2 taking

dertaking, that Men of all Principles seemed very well satisfied with it; even those who think the Matter carried so far that they cannot now comply with the present Government; in so much, that some, who are the greatest Sufferers at present by their Non-compliance, could not be perswaded at that time to declare their abhorience of it.

The great Body of the Nation Rood Rill and looked on; wished well to the Prince without wishing ill to the King's Person, or to the just Exercise of his Authority. And I am verily perswaded, there were very few even among those who were more active, who at that time while the King continued with as ever thought of more, then to obtain a free parliament, by whose mature Counsels, the Law might be restored to its due Course, and the Religion and Liberties of England secured to the Religion and Liberties to the Religion and

But the King would not stand this Tryal, but disbands his Army, withdraws his Perfon, fon, without leaving any Authority behind him to administer the Government. No body ever thought that this was a perfectly free and voluntary Act, but however gone he was, and had left no body behind him to govern by his Authority; and then the Government was either disolved, or the Power must reside in the Estates of the Realm in for it at any time there be no Power in the Nation the Government is dissolved.

The Estates upon this great Exigency of Affairs assembled, but, did not apprecend the Superior Authority of the People over Kings; and their Power to judge depose; and punish them; but they only undertook to judge; what properly falls under their Cognizance in such cases, and what now lay before them; whether the Throne were vacant, and if it were, how it must be filled: And when those, who were the sole and proper Judges of this Case had once determined it, private Subjects (according to the sundamental Reasons of all Govern-

Governments) were bound to acquiesce, whatever their private Opinions were, or else such State-disputes can never be determined, but we must necessarily dissolve into Anarchy and Consulion. Where there is no determination of the Law of Nature, or of the Law of God against it (as there is none about meet legal Rights) the Resolutions of Covernment must determine the Consciences of private Subjects; for the Power of Judging must extend as far as the just Power of governing does.

So that (whatever dispute there may be about other Matters) the late Revolution has made no alteration at all in the Principles of Covernment and Obedience. It does not oblige us to own the Superior Power of the People over the King, which would be a very tottering Poundation for Monarchy, and could never support it long. Those who believed the Doctrine of Non-reflicance and Pallive Obedience to be a good Doctrine before may think to ftill, and be never the less Triends to the prefent Govern-

Government ; and I have often thought it a wonderful Providence of God, that in an Age, wherein the firideft Loyalty and Obedience had been so earnestly pressed on Men, fo great a Revolution should be brought about, while the generality of Subjeds were meerly passive, and surprized into a Deliverance. But it is quite otherwife in the present Case, the horrid Fact committed on this Day has poylon'd the very Springs and Fountains of Government, and so deeply tindured Mens Minds, that I pray God, we may not still live to fee and feel the miferable Effects of it. For when Men fit loofe in their Obedience without the Restraint and Ties of Confrience, nothing but Power can keep the disjoynted and incoherent Parts of fucha Government together; they are a fluid Body like the Sea, which every breath of Wind puts into a new Difturbance and Commotions in shift and an information and

Especially when a Nation is already disvided into Parties and Factions both in Church

Church and States which bare tacked with a furious and reftless Zeal, and will be facisfied with nothing less than to be uppermost; which is another Mischief our late in natural War has left Behind it Those bit ter Animofities are not yet forgot, nay they daily revive again, and our old Quarrels are acted over with a new Zeal This is not only an uneafier but a very dangerous State for any movernment; when there are two or three or more Parties in any Nation. which contend to be appermoft; and to oppress the others, and are resolved to dis like, and to milieprelent what the others do When a Name thall make common Friends and common Enemies, and few Men have any regard to the Publick good, 18 it be against the Interest of their Party. Nav. when good Success is grievous to them, if they have not been the chief Actors in it. and they are well pleased with the greatest and most irreparable Miscarriages, if they give them any advantage over their Rivals, though the Nation is in danger to be undone by them. What difficulties does this impose Church upon

upon a Prince, when it is dangerous to choose any fide, and yet impossible to be thought of none.

These are some of those Evils, which our own Sins, and the just Judgments of God have brought upon us. And when shall we see an end of these things! When shall Peace, and Righteousnels, and Truth, take up their Habitation among us! When will God return in Mercy, Heal the Breaches of our Sion, and Build up her Walls! Now is the time if eyer, heartily to endeavour, heartily to Pray for this, That God would make us glad according to the days, wherein he bath afflished us, and the years wherein we have seen Equil.

which is the third part of my Text; which i can but name. Now in order to this, God has done a great deal for us already if we will do any thing for our felves. God hath advanced such Princes to the Throne (whom we beseech him long to continue, preserve and prosper there)

Miens

as feem on purpole fitted by Nature, by Education, by Religion, by Interest, to accomplish this glorious Work. We have a King, who was always in the Interest of his Country, whole great Mind knows no greater Glory then to be a publick Benefactor, to be a Parron to the Injured and Oppressed, and to break the Chains and Fetters prepared for Europe A King, who knows How to Govern a free People, who knows the price of Liberty, and what a value Mankind have for it. 10 A King, who was never Personally concerned in any of our Quarrels. and therefore has no Personal Refentiments; brings no Spirit of Revenge, no Spirit of a Party to the Throne with him. A King and Queen, who by Education, Principle and Interest, are professed Enemies to Popery, and the great Defence and Support of the Protestant Cause at home and abroad; who teach and encourage Piety and Veffue by Their Examples as well as Laws, and malutain and defend the Worlhip and Government of the Church of England, and at the fame time endeavour to fosten and temper Mens

Mens passions with Ease and Liberty; and God grant we may see the good effects of it; for Liberty unless wisely used, seldom proves a kindness, even to those who have it.

So that all the old Complaints are redreffed, all the plaufible Pretences for Faction are filenced, by the Advancement of Their Majeffies to the Throne. Here is no appearing Danger of an over-growing Power, and illegal Ulurpations, no oppression of the Subjects in their Just Rights, no divided Interest between Prince and People; unless People will divide from a Prince who makes their Safety, Happinels and Interest his own; may, who purchases their Ease and Security with the endless Patigues and Hazard of his own Sacred Person. Here are no fears of Popish designs, no pretence for former Clamours of Persecution for Conscience sake; and what have the most distantified Men to complain of But only the prelling Necessities of Affairs and luch imavoidable Milcarriages, as fuch Necellines will always occasi-118

on under the best Government in the World.

And why then should we not all unite in fuch Princes, and forget all former Quarrels? why should we still divide into Parties, when the Throne is of no Party, and will admit of none? what are those grievances still to make party quarrels, unless Monarchy and the Church of England be thought the only remaining Grievances; and I pray God I may never live to fee thefe Grievances removed; may the Throne always support the Church, and the Church the Throne, for neither of them can long subsist apart: A fondness for Parity will soon affect the State as well as the Church, for Parity is parity still, whether in Church or State, and most of the Arguments for it will do equal Execution both ways.

To conclude: If ever we desire to see a flourishing Church and Kingdom again, let us learn Wisdom from the Example of this day; for be being dead, yet speaketh, and warneth

us all to have a care of a blind Zeal and Fadion, not to lissen to designing and discontented Spirits, who to gratise their own private Passions and Resembnerts, will Revenge themselves upon the publick Peace; not to be imposed on again by the glorious Names of Religion and the Cause of Christ, not to help such Men to begin a Quarrel who will end it without us, and which we shall then in vain repent that ever we began; but these Cautions are needless in such a Wise and Honourable Assembly. God grant we may all mind the things that make for Peace, and those things whereby we may edify one another.

To God the Father, God the Son, and Godthe Holy Ghost, be Honour, Glory, and Power, now and for ever Amen.

FINIS.

COST DE

BOOKS Published by the Reverend Dr. Sherlock, Dean of St. Paul's, Master of the Temples and Chaplain in Ordinary to Their Majesties.

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A.Perfusiwe to Processe Communion in the Holy Sacramos of the Lord's Supper. The Eighth Edicion. 12"

Bet 17 the most Reference Father in God, John Lord Arch.

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